



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE HOUSE • BOSTON 02133

(617) 727-3600

WILLIAM F. WELD
GOVERNOR

ARGEON PAUL CELLUCCI
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

May 21, 1997

The Honorable Ron Wyden
United States Senate
717 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-3703

Dear Senator Wyden:

On behalf of the Weld-Cellucci Administration, I am writing to express my strong support for S. 442, the Internet Freedom Act.

The electronics industry represents one of the bedrock sectors of the Massachusetts economy, and within this sector Internet technologies are among the most promising innovations. The Internet and the commerce that it will attract hold out vast potential for economic growth in my state. I do not want these technologies to be strangled by unchecked government regulation and taxation.

I understand that the National Governors' Association's Committee on Economic Development and Commerce has written in opposition to your legislation. Let me be clear: I do not think that the suffocating growth of taxes on the Internet industry is in the interest of my state. Governor Weld and I have proposed legislation that would repeal all Internet taxes in Massachusetts. However, the nature of the Internet makes it imperative that Congress stem the tide of taxation in other jurisdictions. Thank you for your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Argeo Paul Cellucci".

Argeo Paul Cellucci
Lieutenant Governor

cc: Representative Christopher Cox